

Message Text

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ACTION MC-02

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 DODE-00 EB-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2471

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, SA, US

SUBJECT: MUNITIONS CONTROL DISAPPROVAL OF SAUDI NATIONAL GUARD

ARMS PURCHASE

1. THE AMBASSADOR HAS RECEIVED A LETTER FROM THE DEPUTY
COMMANDER OF THE NATIONAL GUARD, PRINCE BADR BIN ABD
AL AZIZ, REQUESTING HIS ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING REVER-
SAL OF A MUNITIONS CONTROL DISAPPROVAL OF THE SALE TO
THE NATIONAL GUARD OF 190 9MM SUBMACHINE GUNS AND 30
MAC M10/9MMP SUPPRESSORS, PLUS OTHER ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT.

2. THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE LETTER: QUOTE.

DEAR AMBASSADOR:

WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT
OF STATE HAVE REFUSED TO ALLOW THE EXPORT OF 190 SUB
MACHINE GUNS 9 MM. M10 WITH 30 SUPPRESSORS AND ASSOCIATED
EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURED BY AN AMERICAN COMPANY THE MILI-
TARY ARMAMENT CORPORATION OF MARIETTA, GEORGIA USA AND
WHICH ARE REQUIRED BY THE NATIONAL GUARD.

A COPY OF THE DISAPPROVED APPLICATION TO SUPPLY THESE
WEAPONS TO THE NATIONAL GUARD IS ATTACHED.

AS THESE WEAPONS ARE REQUIRED SOLELY FOR USE BY THE
NATIONAL GUARD TO IMPROVE PATROLLING AND COMBAT EFFIC-
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IENCY FOR DEFENSIVE PURPOSES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE

LATEST TECHNIQUES AND ARE ALSO REQUIRED FOR THE MODERNIZATION PROJECT, AND AS THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED THE EXPORT OF 699 OF THE SAME WEAPONS TOGETHER WITH 104 SUPPRESSORS LAST YEAR, WE REQUEST YOUR URGENT ASSISTANCE TO OBTAIN THE NECESSARY PERMIT TO SUPPLY THESE WEAPONS TO THE NATIONAL GUARD.

DEPUTY COMMANDER

(SIGNED)

NATIONAL GUARD

UNQUOTE.

3. THE EMBASSY SEES NO OBJECTION TO THE SALE OF THESE WEAPONS AND ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT TO THE SAUDI NATIONAL GUARD, AN ORGANIZATION WHOSE MODERNIZATION THE USG HAS BEEN ASSITING. AMONG THE FUNCTIONS ASSIGNED TO THE NATIONAL GUARD ARE THE PROTECTION OF SAUDI OFFICIALS AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND FOREIGN EMBASSIES. (A DETACHMENT OF THE NATIONAL GUARD IS PERMANENTLY ASSIGNED TO THE PROTECTION OF THE US EMBASSY.) WE ALSO NOTE THAT A LARGER SALE OF THESE SAME ITEMS HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY APPROVED.

4. THE EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT THIS CASE BE RECONSIDERED AND THAT THE SALE BE APPROVED. IF FOR SOME REASON THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE, PLEASE PROVIDE US WITH THE RATIONALE FOR DISAPPROVAL.

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